

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

5.1. Conclusion

This study concludes that children's literature shows that symbols can be practical tools for helping kids learn about nature and empathy, which are necessary for becoming socially competent individuals. *The Wild Robot* embodies the symbols of nature and conveys meanings about humanity. Concerning the future, which will be carried on by children.

The symbols that reveal the true meaning of each character, such as Roz, a robot with artificial intelligence, powered by the system, but ended up taking over her body to keep her human side that she got from her society, to stay alive, symbolize how adaptation and ecological awareness work when it comes to empathy, which takes control of the mind and body. Meanwhile, Brightbill, a gosling raised by a robot, shows that he can still grow as a good son and have his own space and community that he belongs to. The durability of his life journeys makes him a keen person, excited about every step of his path. The animal community symbolizes the collective effort that keeps the island alive through teamwork and cooperation. Every animal in the community symbolizes peace and balance, emphasizing that nature will always be fragile and needs extra care from the community and neighborhood to keep it alive.

Natural settings such as the island, forest, ocean, and season of the environment serve as symbols of natural habitat that act as a self-contained system ruled by natural laws. The island symbolizes nature as an independent environment that requires all its members to make adaptations. The inclusion of Roz's existence as "artificial life" does not break the island's natural system but instead shows how life can assimilate others

into itself by cooperating and interacting ethically with nature. Nature can sustain life with the help of others as long as you respect it, learn to adapt, and take it easy.

Objects and seasons of symbolism, such as fire, egg, and preparing for winter, further imply *The Wild Robot's* eco-friendly meanings. Fire implies destruction and protection. Egg implies fragility, life continuity, and accountability for new life. Seasons, such as preparing for winter, can help readers understand the importance of heeding ecosystem cycles and that living does not always come easily, as humans will have to be patient with natural processes.

The author believes *The Wild Robot* allows readers to realize ecological activism through its symbolic story by implementing the ethics of caring for the environment, cooperating with different species, all while respecting ecosystem cycles and learning to limit yourself. *The Wild Robot* allows us to learn how to conserve nature and our environment, with many of its characters and symbols being tied to some sort of ecology. Every symbol mentioned in this research helps tell the reader that we as humans should do our best to protect nature and not abuse or take over it, and let the natural ecosystem do its job. The hidden symbols that help imply ecological activism in this book can help motivate others and allow kids to learn how to take care of nature.

5.2. Suggestion

This research focuses on symbolism and ecological meanings in *The Wild Robot*. Therefore, future researchers may explore other literary elements that have not been examined extensively in this study. One possible direction is the analysis of imagery and visual representation through Multimodal Discourse Analysis, particularly by examining the relationship between Peter Brown's textual narrative and illustrations.

Such an approach may reveal how visual and verbal elements work together to communicate ecological values to young readers.

Future studies may also extend the analysis to the complete *The Wild Robot* trilogy, including *The Wild Robot Escapes* and *The Wild Robot Protects*. By examining the trilogy as a whole, researchers may investigate the development of ecological themes, environmental crises, technological intervention, and human–nature relationships across a broader narrative timeline. This approach would provide a deeper understanding of how ecological activism evolves throughout the series.

